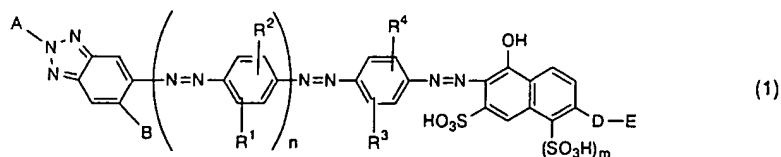
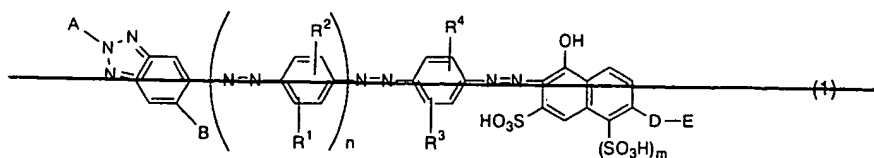


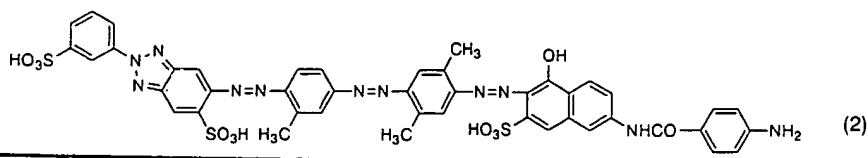
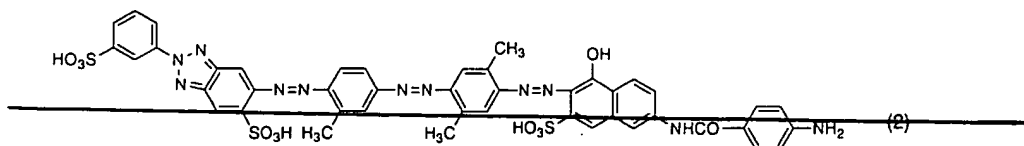
## Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the last paragraph on page 6 to read as follows:

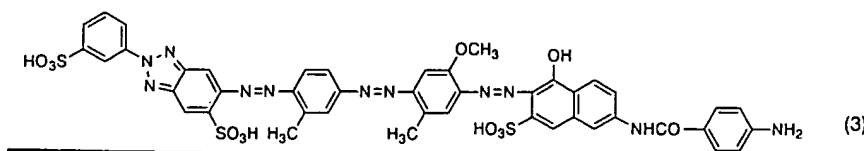
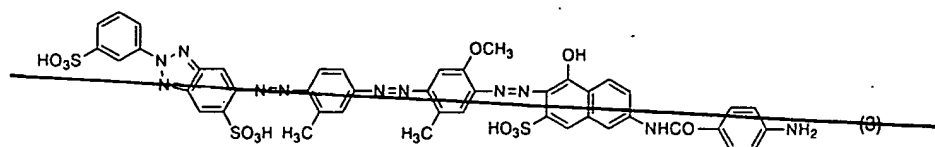
- [1]. An azo compound represented by the following formula  
(1):



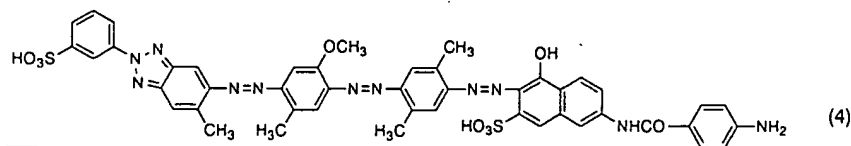
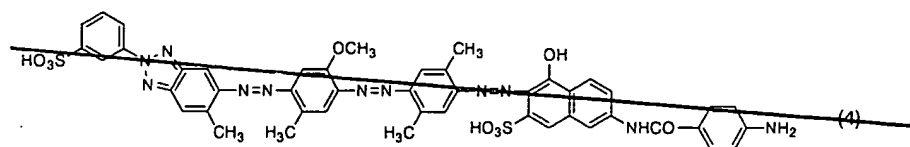
- Please amend the second full paragraph on page 12 (formula  
(2)) to read as follows:



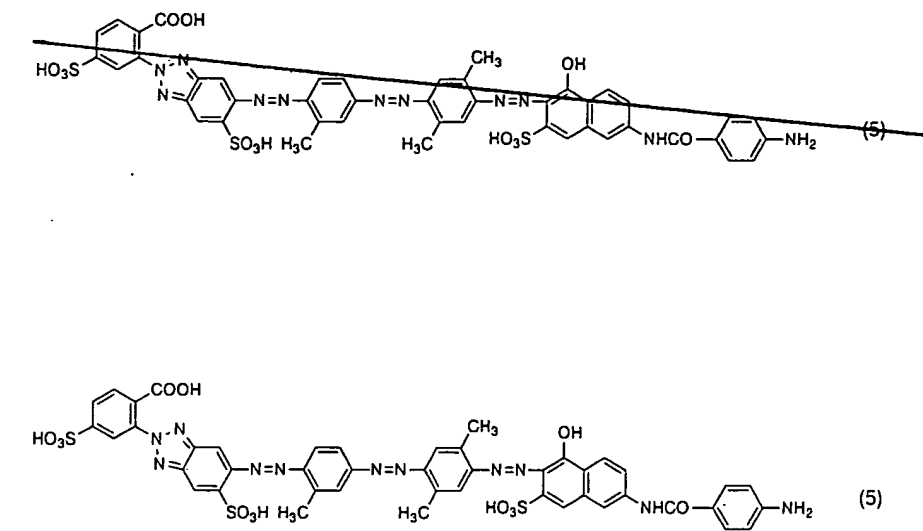
Please amend the third full paragraph on page 12 (formula (3)) to read as follows:



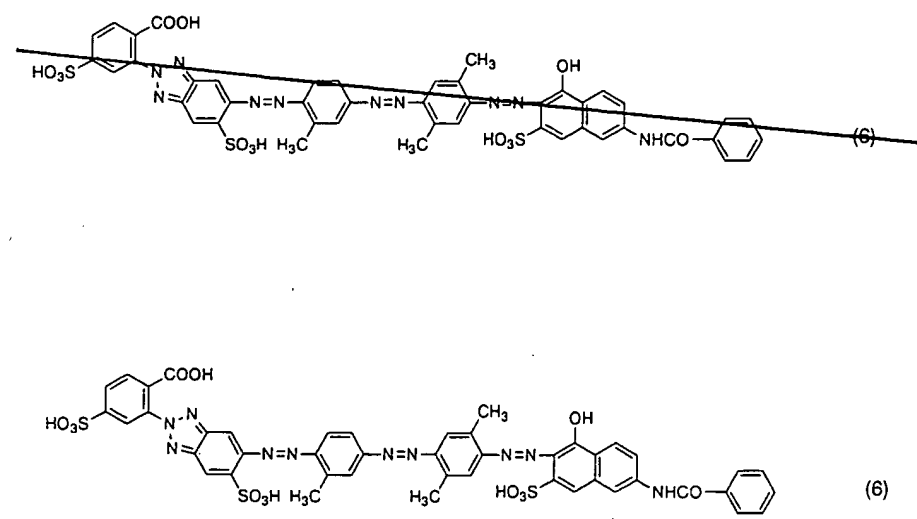
Please amend the fourth full paragraph on page 12 (formula (4)) to read as follows:



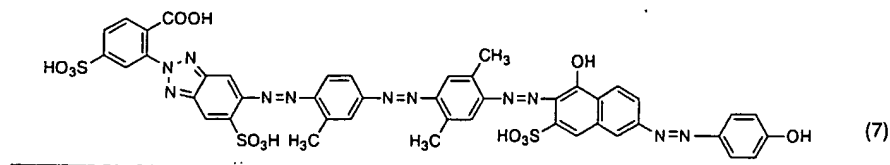
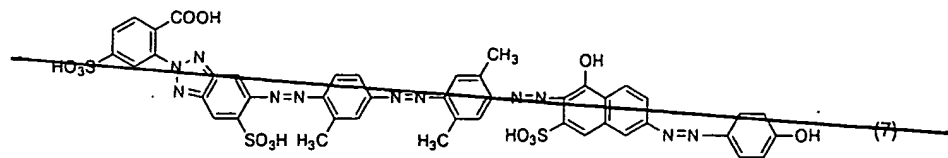
Please amend the fifth full paragraph on page 12 (formula (5)) to read as follows:



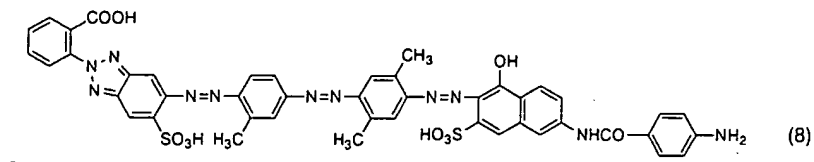
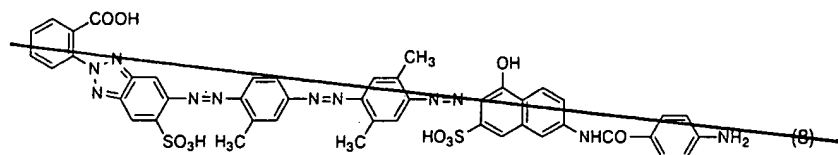
Please amend the sixth fifth full paragraph on page 12 (formula (6)) to read as follows:



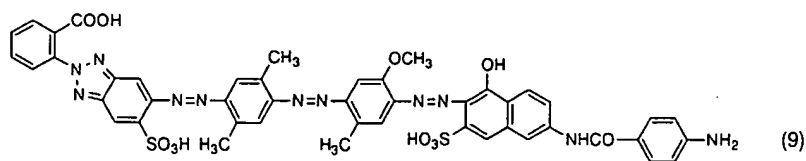
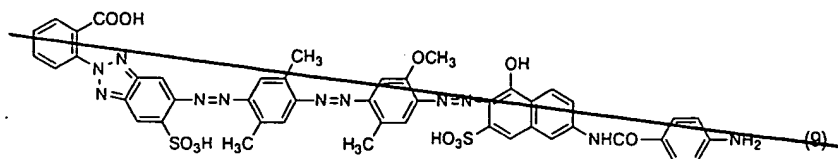
Please amend the seventh full paragraph on page 12 (formula (7)) to read as follows:



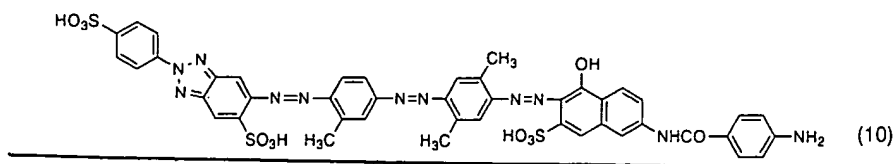
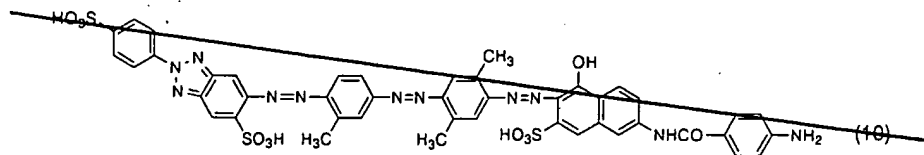
Please amend the first full paragraph on page 13 (formula (8)) to read as follows:



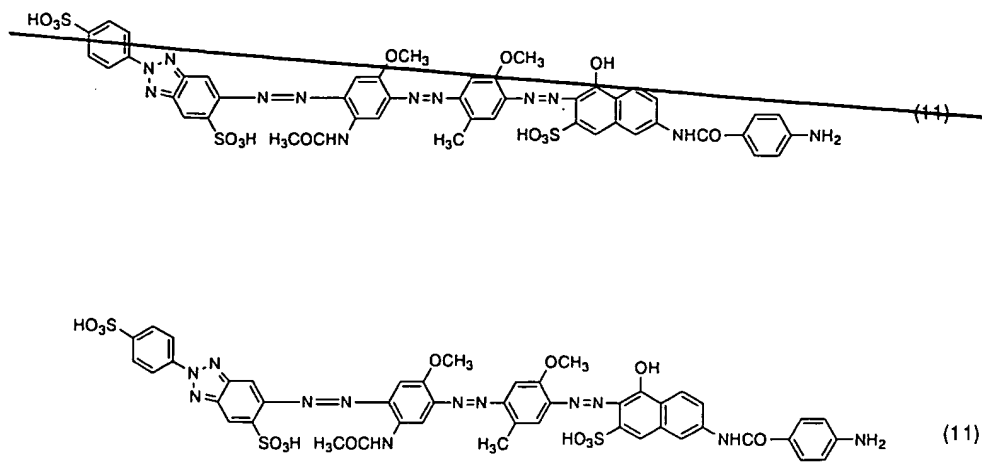
Please amend the second full paragraph on page 13 (formula (9)) to read as follows:



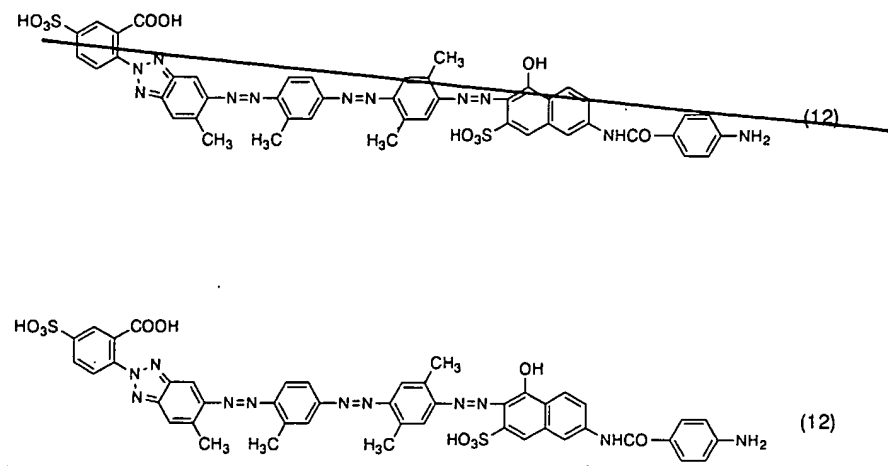
Please amend the third full paragraph on page 13 (formula (10)) to read as follows:



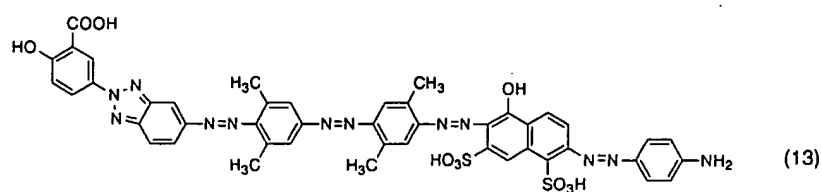
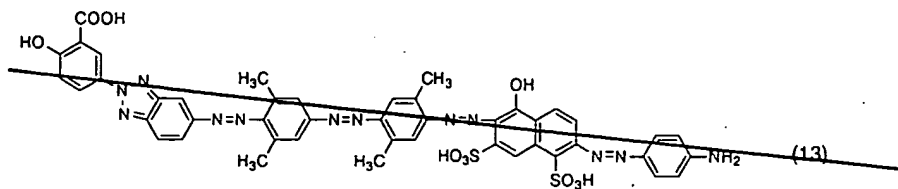
Please amend the fourth full paragraph on page 13 (formula (11)) to read as follows:



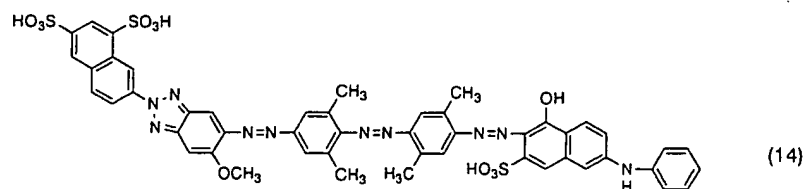
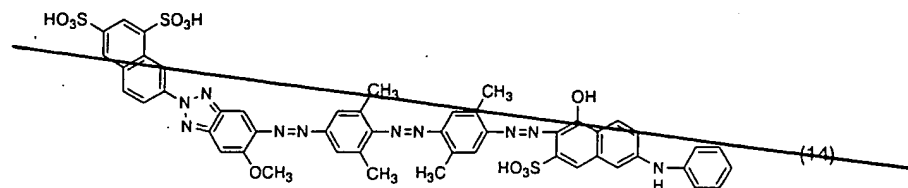
Please amend the fifth full paragraph on page 13 (formula (12)) to read as follows:



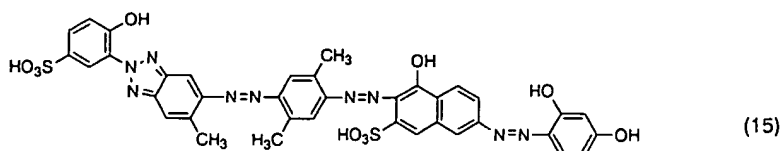
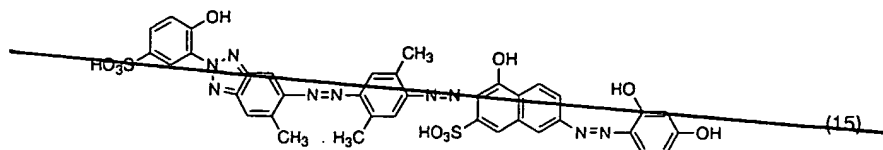
Please amend the sixth full paragraph on page 13 (formula (13)) to read as follows:



Please amend the seventh full paragraph on page 13 (formula (14)) to read as follows:



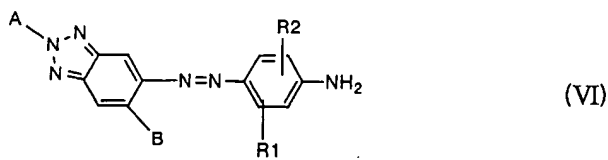
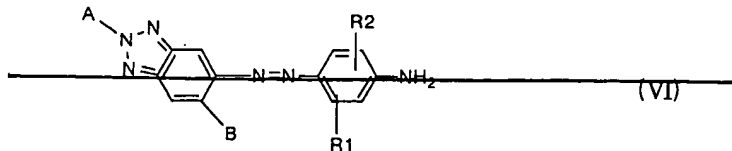
Please amend the first paragraph on page 14 (formula 15)) to read as follows:



Please amend the second full paragraph on page 15 (formula IV)) to read as follows:

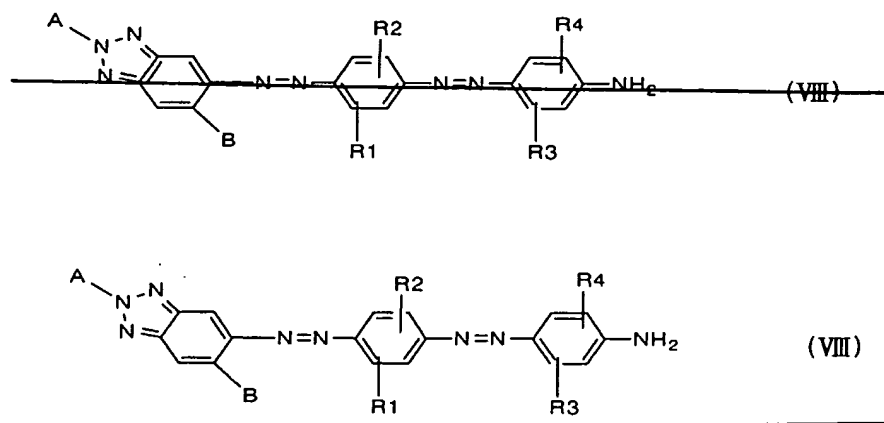


Please amend the fifth full paragraph on page 15 (formula VI)) to read as follows:



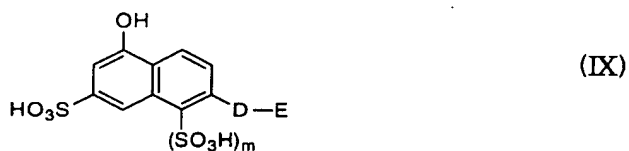


Please amend the first full paragraph on page 16 (formula VIII)) to read as follows:



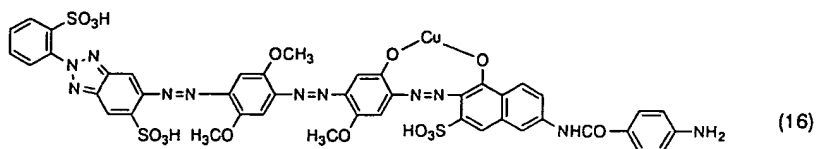
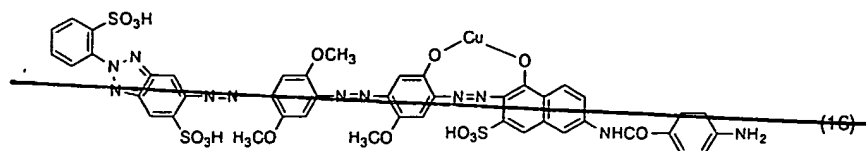
Please amend the second full paragraph on page 16 to read as follows:

This disazoamino compound is diazotized and subjected to tertiary coupling with naphthols represented by the following formula (IX) to obtain an azo compound of the formula (1).

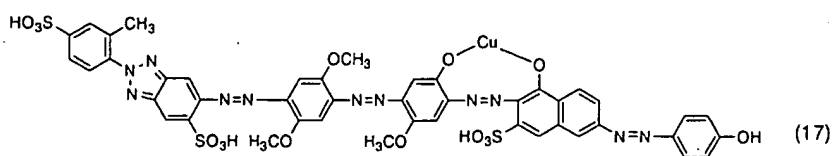
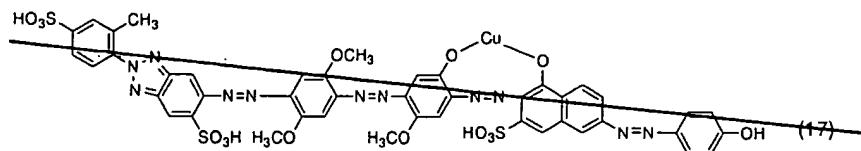


In the above formula, D and E denote ~~denotes~~ the same meaning as defined in the formula (1).

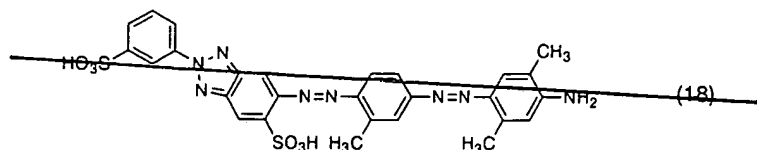
Please amend the last paragraph on page 18 (formula 16)) to read as follows:

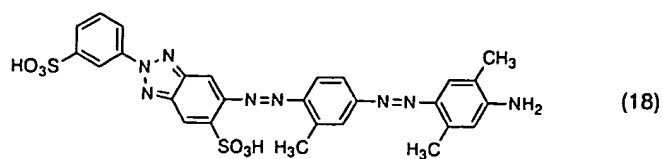


Please amend the first full paragraph on page 19 (formula (17)) to read as follows:

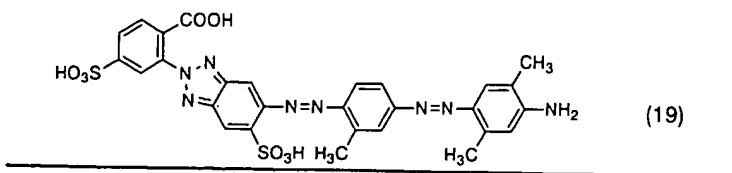
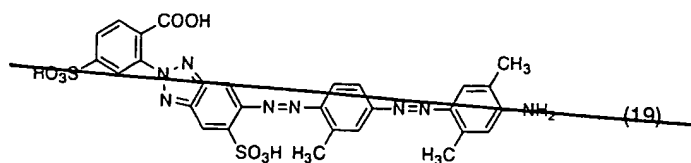


Please amend the second full paragraph on page 33 (formula (18)) to read as follows:

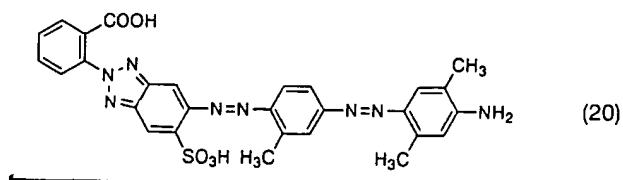
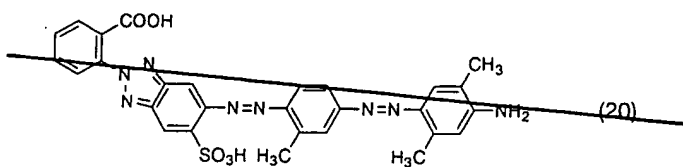




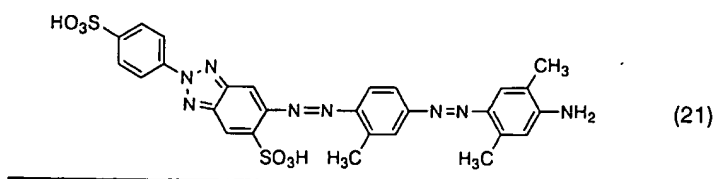
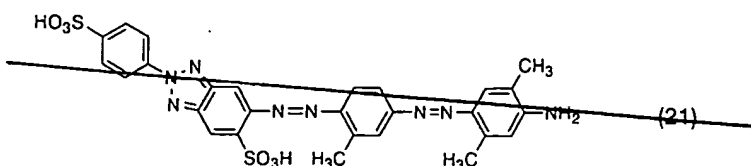
Please amend the first full paragraph on page 35 (formula (19)) to read as follows:



Please amend the third full paragraph on page 35 (formula (20)) to read as follows:



Please amend the first full paragraph on page 36 (formula 21)) to read as follows:



Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 36-37 to read as follows:

15 parts of the disazo compound of the above formula ~~(18)~~ (19) was dispersed in 600 parts of water, then 32 parts of 35% hydrochloric acid and then 6.9 parts of sodium nitrite were added, and stirring was carried out for 2 hours at 25 to 30°C to carry out the diazotization. On the other hand, 34.3 parts of 6-benzoylamino-3-sulfo-1-naphthol was added to 250 parts of water, and the mixture was made alkalescent with sodium carbonate to be dissolved. Into this solution was poured the diazotization product of the disazo compound previously obtained while keeping a pH of 7 to 10, and stirring was carried out to complete the

coupling reaction. Salting out was carried out with sodium chloride, and filtration was carried out to obtain the sodium salt of a trisazo compound represented by the above formula (6). This compound salt expressed red. 20% aqueous pyridine solution of this compound salt had a maximum absorption wavelength of 547 nm as measured by a spectrophotometer (V-530 manufactured by JASCO Corporation).

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 37 to read as follows:

15 parts of the disazo compound of the above formula ~~(18)~~ (19) was dispersed in 600 parts of water, then 32 parts of 35% hydrochloric acid and then 6.9 parts of sodium nitrite were added, and stirring was carried out for 2 hours at 25 to 30°C to carry out the diazotization.